SUPERMAN • NATIONAL COMICS
DC
10¢
OCT. NO. 245
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
ACTION COMICS
Featuring "The SHRINKING SUPERMAN!"
THANKS, LOIS LANE! YOU'VE USED THAT SIZE-RAY TO SHRINK THE REAL SUPERMAN! SOON HE'LL BE A SUPER-MITE--AND I'LL TAKE HIS PLACE ON EARTH!
LOIS, I'M GETTING TINIER EVERY SECOND... I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO RETURN TO NORMAL SIZE AND FIGHT MY DOUBLE FROM KRYPTON! GOODBYE...
MEMO FROM Lois Lane

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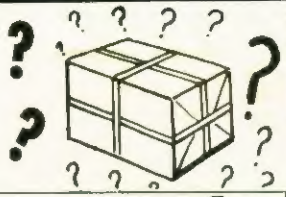

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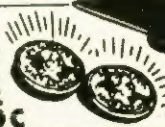
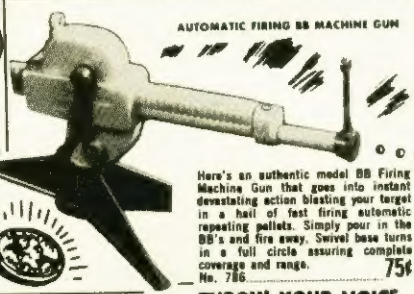
142 ..... Both only **25c**





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SUPERMAN

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

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IN METROPOLIS ONE DAY, A FLYING FORM WHISTLES DOWN TO NAB CRIMINALS, IGNORING BULLETS THAT BOUNCE FROM HIS INVULNERABLE FORM! ALL OVER TOWN, A BLUE-CLAD HERO BESTOWS HIS SUPER-SERVICES! YET IT IS NOT SUPERMAN... AT LEAST, NOT THE ONE WE KNOW! WHERE IS THE MAN OF STEEL HIMSELF? NO ONE KNOWS! NOR DOES ANY-ONE EVEN SUSPECT THAT SUPERMAN IS ABSENT, WHEN ALL HIS SUPER-WORK IS CARRIED ON BY A CRIMINAL FROM KRYPTON AND HE HIMSELF BECOMES...

THE SHRINKING SUPERMAN!

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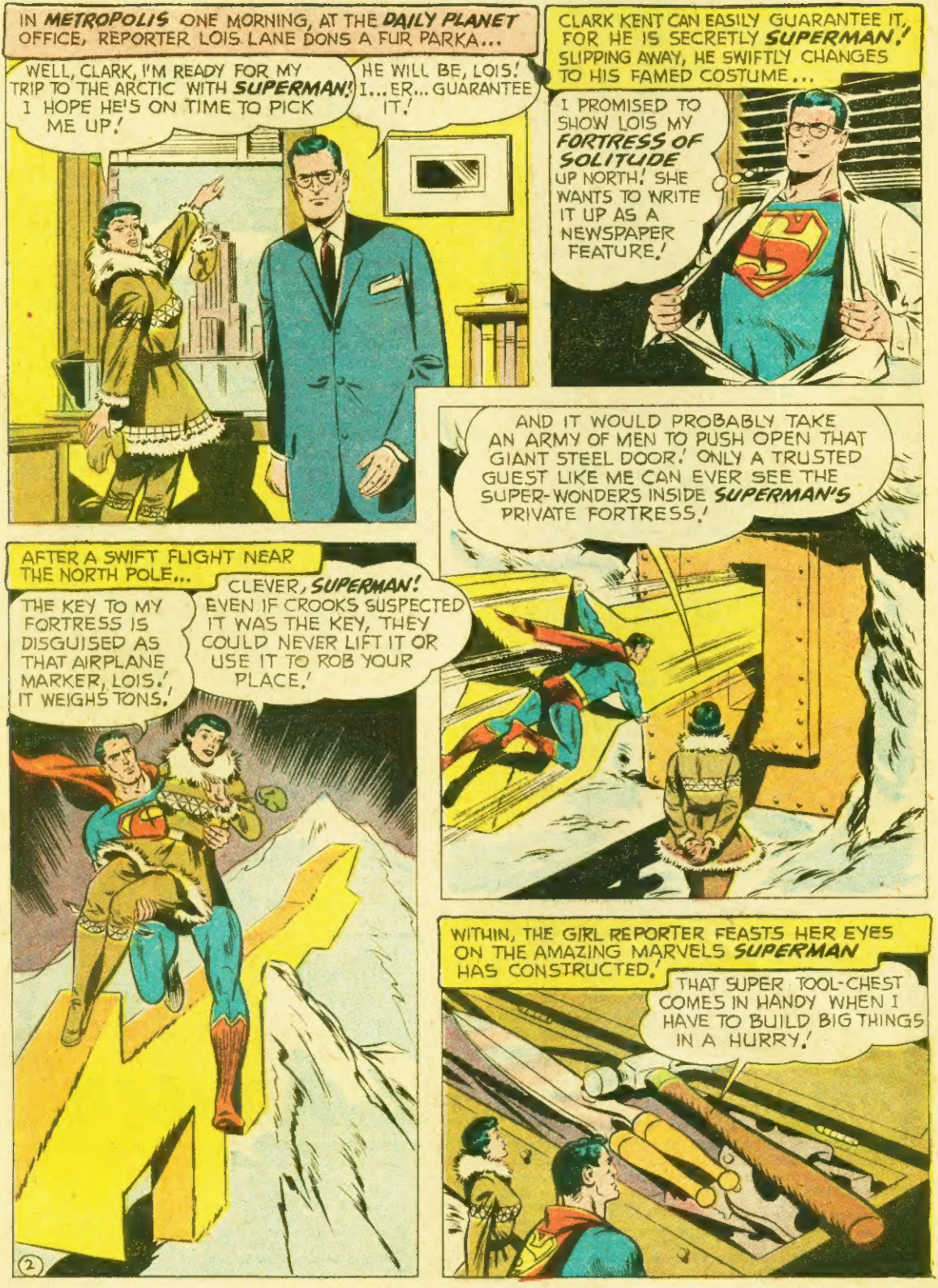
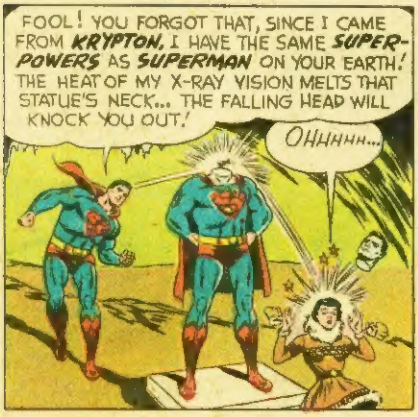
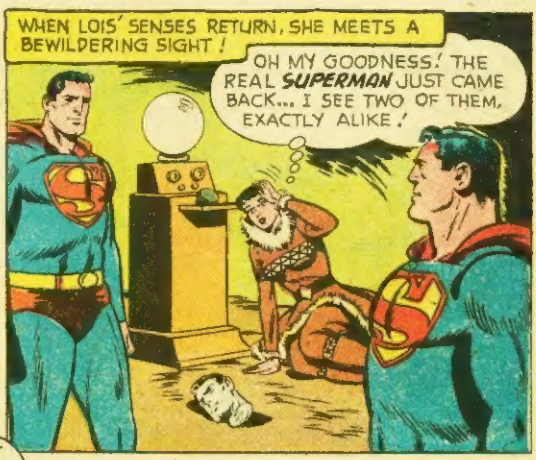

IN METROPOLIS ONE MORNING, AT THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE, REPORTER LOIS LANE DONS A FUR PARKA...
WELL, CLARK, I'M READY FOR MY TRIP TO THE ARCTIC WITH SUPERMAN! I HOPE HE'S ON TIME TO PICK ME UP!
HE WILL BE, LOIS! I...ER... GUARANTEE IT!
CLARK KENT CAN EASILY GUARANTEE IT, FOR HE IS SECRETLY SUPERMAN! SLIPPING AWAY, HE SWIFTLY CHANGES TO HIS FAMED COSTUME...
I PROMISED TO SHOW LOIS MY FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE UP NORTH! SHE WANTS TO WRITE IT UP AS A NEWSPAPER FEATURE!
AND IT WOULD PROBABLY TAKE AN ARMY OF MEN TO PUSH OPEN THAT GIANT STEEL DOOR! ONLY A TRUSTED GUEST LIKE ME CAN EVER SEE THE SUPER-WONDERS INSIDE SUPERMAN'S PRIVATE FORTRESS!
AFTER A SWIFT FLIGHT NEAR THE NORTH POLE...
THE KEY TO MY FORTRESS IS DISGUISED AS THAT AIRPLANE MARKER, LOIS! IT WEIGHS TONS!
CLEVER, SUPERMAN! EVEN IF CROOKS SUSPECTED IT WAS THE KEY, THEY COULD NEVER LIFT IT OR USE IT TO ROB YOUR PLACE!
WITHIN, THE GIRL REPORTER FEASTS HER EYES ON THE AMAZING MARVELS SUPERMAN HAS CONSTRUCTED!
THAT SUPER TOOL-CHEST COMES IN HANDY WHEN I HAVE TO BUILD BIG THINGS IN A HURRY!
2

NEXT...
FOR RECREATION, I HAVE MY OWN BOWLING ALLEY! INSTEAD OF TEN-PINS, YOU MIGHT CALL THIS HUNDRED PINS!
NATURALLY, ORDINARY BOWLING IS TOO TAME FOR YOU!
FINALLY, THERE IS A SUPER-SURPRISE FOR LOIS...
A... A LOIS LANE ROOM? YOU'VE COLLECTED TROPHIES OF ME!
WHY NOT, LOIS? AFTER ALL, YOU'RE ONE OF MY CLOSEST FRIENDS!
LOIS LANE ROOM
BIGGEST SCOOP OF 1958
IN A SUPER-GYM...
I BUILT THIS ATOMIC-POWERED ROBOT FOR A SPARRING PARTNER! HE GIVES ME A GOOD WORK-OUT!
GOODNESS! THE ROBOT'S PUNCH WOULD CAVE IN THE SIDE OF A BATTLESHIP! SUPERMAN DOESN'T FEEL IT!
I... I WISH I WERE MORE THAN A CLOSE FRIEND... HIS WIFE! SIGH!
BROWSE AROUND BY YOURSELF NOW, WHILE I TAKE CARE OF A FEW APPOINTMENTS BACK HOME! YOU CAN ALWAYS CONTACT ME WITH THAT CRYSTAL BALL... IT'S REALLY A TWO-WAY TV SET!
3

LATER, LOIS COMES UPON A TROPHY SHE REMEMBERS...THE RESULT OF A PREVIOUS ADVENTURE SHE SHARED WITH THE MAN OF STEEL!
THAT'S A CITY OF KRYPTON, THE PLANET WHERE SUPERMAN WAS BORN! AN EVIL SPACE SCIENTIST SHRUNK IT TO MINIATURE SIZE WITH A REDUCING RAY BEFORE THAT WORLD BLEW UP! THEN HE SEALED IT IN A BOTTLE!
AIR HAS TO BE PUMPED IN, FOR THE TINY PEOPLE ARE STILL ALIVE AND GOING ABOUT THEIR DAILY BUSINESS! SOME DAY SUPERMAN HOPES TO FIND A WAY TO ENLARGE THEM TO NORMAL SIZE!
BUT LOIS BENDS TOO CLOSE OVER THE MIDGET CITY AND...
OOPS!... I KNOCKED IT TO THE FLOOR BY ACCIDENT! OH, DEAR! I HOPE I DIDN'T SMASH IT!
NO... LUCKILY, IT ONLY CRACKED A BIT! THE AIR WILL LEAK OUT SLOWLY! SUPERMAN WILL REPAIR IT WHEN HE RETURNS! NO HARM DONE!
BUT UNKNOWN TO LOIS, SHE HAS BEEN THE KNOCK OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ONE OF THE TINY CITIZENS... ZAK-KUL, RENEGADE SCIENTIST!
WHAT LUCK! MY CHANCE TO SQUEEZE OUT OF THIS GIANT CRACK AND ESCAPE FROM THE BOTTLE! LET THE POLICE OF KRYPTON WONDER WHERE I LEFT! HA, HA!
PREVIOUSLY, I ISOLATED THE RARE ELEMENT, ILLIUM 349, WHOSE RAYS CAN CHANGE THE SIZE OF THE BODY! I'LL PRESS THE ENLARGER BUTTON AND RETURN TO NORMAL HUMAN SIZE!
4

WHILE LOIS IS BUSY EXAMINING OTHER SOUVENIRS, ZAK-KUL SEEKS OUT A SPECIAL ONE...
USING A TELESCOPE WHEN I WAS IN THE BOTTLE, I EXAMINED ALL THESE TROPHIES AND TRANSLATED THE EARTH LANGUAGE! I PLANNED EXACTLY WHAT I WOULD DO IF I EVER ESCAPED. FIRST, TO USE THIS FACE-MOLDING INSTRUMENT TO BECOME SUPERMAN'S DOUBLE!
ELECTRONIC PLASTIC SURGERY
CAPTURED FROM
SUPERMAN
THEN, STRIPPING THE CLOTHES OFF A DUMMY OF SUPERMAN...
NO ONE WILL EVER GUESS I ESCAPED FROM THE KRYPTON CITY... IF I POSE AS SUPERMAN HERE ON THE EARTH WORLD. I'LL TEST MY DISGUISE WITH THAT GIRL...
SUPERMAN! I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU BACK SO SOON!
SHE'S FOOLED... ONE OF HIS CLOSEST FRIENDS! THAT MEANS THE EARTH PEOPLE WILL NEVER SUSPECT ME! I WON'T BE EXPOSED! HA, HA!
BUT SUDDENLY, THE CUNNING SCHEMER IS BETRAYED... BY SUPERMAN'S CALL OVER HIS CRYSTAL BALL TV!
SUPERMAN CALLING LOIS LANE! JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW I'LL BE BACK SOON! THAT IS ALL.
WAIT! IF SUPERMAN IS STILL AWAY, THEN ... THEN YOU'RE AN IMPOSTOR!
BLAST IT! ALL RIGHT, I'M ZAK-KUL, OF KRYPTON! I ESCAPED FROM THE CRACKED BOTTLE AND ENLARGED MYSELF, THEN DISGUISED MYSELF AS SUPERMAN!
BUT THE EFFECTS OF ILLIUM-349, WHICH ENLARGED ME, CAN ALSO BE REVERSED TO BECOME A REDUCING RAY... WHICH I'LL USE ON SUPERMAN WHEN HE RETURNS!
I'LL RUN TO THE CRYSTAL BALL AND WARN SUPERMAN HE'S RUNNING INTO A TRAP!
5


FOOL! YOU FORGOT THAT, SINCE I CAME FROM KRYPTON, I HAVE THE SAME SUPER-POWERS AS SUPERMAN ON YOUR EARTH! THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION MELTS THAT STATUE'S NECK... THE FALLING HEAD WILL KNOCK YOU OUT!
OHHHHH...


WHEN LOIS' SENSES RETURN, SHE MEETS A BEWILDERING SIGHT!
OH MY GOODNESS! THE REAL SUPERMAN JUST CAME BACK... I SEE TWO OF THEM, EXACTLY ALIKE!

BUT LUCKILY, ZAK-KUL DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO PICK UP HIS RAY DEVICE BEFORE SUPERMAN ARRIVED! I'LL SNATCH IT AND REDUCE THE FALSE SUPERMAN TO TINY SIZE AGAIN!

USE IT ON THAT IMPOSTOR, LOIS! I'M THE REAL SUPERMAN, OF COURSE!
NO, LOIS... HE'S LYING! I'M THE GENUINE SUPERMAN!
OH MY GOODNESS! WHICH IS... (GULP!) WHICH?

ONE OF THOSE TWO IS LYING, OF COURSE, TO CONFUSE ME! HMM... I HAVE AN IDEA HOW I CAN EXPOSE ZAK-KUL! HE WON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT CROOK SUPER-MAN CAUGHT LAST MONTH...

YOU!... IF YOU'RE REALLY SUPERMAN, DESCRIBE THAT CROOK YOU CAPTURED, "GUNNER" GATES, WELL?
"GUNNER" WEARS AN EYE-PATCH!
WHY... UH... OH, I NAB SO MANY CROOKS, LOIS! HOW CAN I REMEMBER THAT PARTICULAR ONE?

HAH! PRETTY THIN, MR. FAKE SUPERMAN! YOU CAN'T REMEMBER BECAUSE YOU'RE ZAK-KUL, THAT'S WHY!
QUICK THINKING, LOIS! YOU SMOKED HIM OUT! USE THE REDUCING RAY ON THAT IMPOSTOR UNTIL HE'S TINY SIZE AGAIN!

SHORTLY...
BACK IN THE BOTTLE, YOU ROGUE! YOUR PLOT FAILED AND YOU'LL LOSE YOUR SUPER-POWERS BACK IN THE KRYPTON CITY!

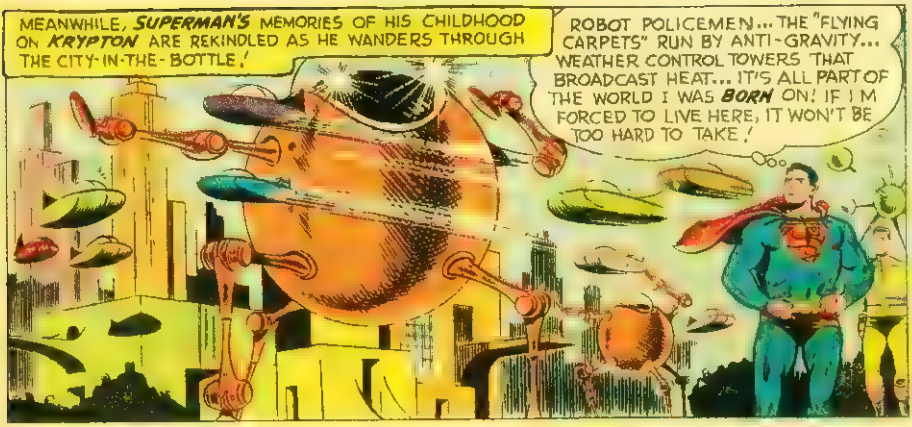
NOW THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION WILL FUSE THE CRACKS! ZAK-KUL WILL NEVER ESCAPE AGAIN!
TOO BAD THE OTHER TINY INHABITANTS CAN'T BE ENLARGED... THAT WAS THE LAST CHARGE OF ILLIUM-349!

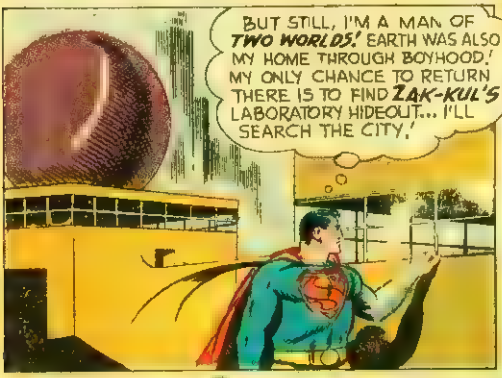
PRESENTLY...
WE LOCKED THE FORTRESS... BACK TO METROPOLIS! GOSH, I'M GLAD THAT FALSE SUPERMAN ISN'T AT LARGE!
BUT I AM THE FALSE SUPERMAN! THE REAL SUPERMAN SOMEHOW FUMBLED HER QUESTION AND WAS SEALED IN THE BOTTLE IN MY PLACE! NOW I'LL TAKE HIS PLACE! HA, HA!

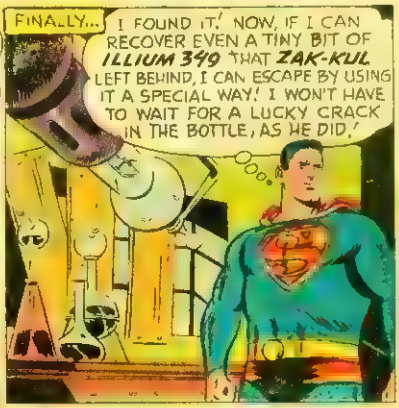
BUT THE STRANGE TRUTH IS THAT SUPERMAN ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE TRAPPED IN THE BOTTLE... FOR AN URGENT REASON!
I PRETENDED TO FORGET ABOUT "GUNNER" GATES... FOR LOIS' SAKE! IF ZAK-KUL HAD BEEN EXPOSED, HE WOULD HAVE DESPERATELY STARTED A SUPER-FIGHT WITH ME! IT MIGHT HAVE WRECKED THE FORTRESS, KILLING LOIS... ALSO SMASHING THE BOTTLE! I... I COULDN'T RISK THAT DANGER!

WHEN I TRY TO SMASH THE GLASS IT ONLY HURTS MY HAND! WITHIN THIS BOTTLE, WHERE KRYPTON'S NON-EARTHLY GRAVITY CONDITIONS ARE IN FORCE, I HAVE NO SUPER-POWERS! I... I'M JUST AN ORDINARY MAN!

"IF I CAN'T FIND SOME OTHER WAY TO ESCAPE, WILL EARTH BE AT THE MERCY OF A SUPER-CRIMINAL?... "
I RIPPED ALL THESE MONEY-VAULTS OUT OF BANKS! NOW TO COUNT MY HAUL! I, ZAK-KUL, WILL LOOT ALL THE EARTH! NOBODY CAN STOP ME WITH MY SUPER-POWERS! HA! HA!
BUT STRANGELY, INSTEAD OF COMMITTING SUPER-CRIMES, ZAK-KUL CONTINUES TO POSE AS SUPERMAN, GOOD DEEDS AND ALL!
WOW! SUPERMAN IS CHEWING UP THAT SWORD AND REALLY SWALLOWING IT!
AFTER AMUSING THESE ORPHAN KIDS, I'LL PATROL METROPOLIS AGAINST CRIME!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
ORPHAN'S BENEFIT SHOW
PRESENTLY...
IF I FLEW DOWN TO STOP THIS BANDIT GETAWAY CAR, THEY WOULD SHOOT, AND THE BULLETS BOUNCING OFF ME MIGHT HARM INNOCENT BYSTANDERS! I'LL TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE BY POPPING UP FROM UNDERGROUND!
THAT WAS TERRIFIC, SUPERMAN! YOU GOT THE CROOKS--AND THEIR LOOT!
I'VE GOT THE "LOOT"! I'VE "STOLEN" SUPERMAN'S CAREER AND "ROBBED" HIM OF ALL HIS FAME AND GLORY! AND I'M SAFE THIS WAY FROM EVER PAYING FOR MY CRIMES ON KRYPTON! HA, HA!
YOU'RE THE GREATEST, SUPERMAN!
PEOPLE IDOLIZE ME AS SUPERMAN! AND IF I CARRY ON HIS WORK, NOBODY WILL SUSPECT I'M AN IMPOSTOR! THEN NOBODY WILL GUESS THAT THE REAL SUPERMAN HIMSELF IS TRAPPED IN THE BOTTLE... FOR LIFE! HA, HA!


MEANWHILE, SUPERMAN'S MEMORIES OF HIS CHILDHOOD ON KRYPTON ARE REKINDLED AS HE WANDERS THROUGH THE CITY-IN-THE-BOTTLE.
ROBOT POLICEMEN... THE "FLYING CARPETS" RUN BY ANTI-GRAVITY... WEATHER CONTROL TOWERS THAT BROADCAST HEAT... IT'S ALL PART OF THE WORLD I WAS BORN ON! IF I'M FORCED TO LIVE HERE, IT WON'T BE TOO HARD TO TAKE!


BUT STILL, I'M A MAN OF TWO WORLDS! EARTH WAS ALSO MY HOME THROUGH BOYHOOD! MY ONLY CHANCE TO RETURN THERE IS TO FIND ZAK-KUL'S LABORATORY HIDEOUT... I'LL SEARCH THE CITY.


FINALLY...
I FOUND IT! NOW, IF I CAN RECOVER EVEN A TINY BIT OF ILLIUM 349 THAT ZAK-KUL LEFT BEHIND, I CAN ESCAPE BY USING IT A SPECIAL WAY! I WON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR A LUCKY CRACK IN THE BOTTLE, AS HE DID.

MEANWHILE, IN TAKING OVER SUPERMAN'S LIFE, ZAK-KUL BECOMES AN ARDENT SUITOR OF LOIS LANE!
OH, SUPERMAN! I'M SO THRILLED YOU ASKED ME TO THIS DANCE! AND YOU'RE SO ROMANTIC FOR A CHANGE!
WHY DON'T I "STEAL" SUPERMAN'S GIRL, TOO? AND WHY WASTE TIME?
LOIS, MY DARLING! WILL YOU MARRY ME?

OH, NO!... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... AFTER ALL THESE YEARS OF WAITING AND HOPING...
OHHHHH...
SHE FAINTED!

LOIS CAN HARDLY BE BLAMED! BUT MOMENTS LATER, RECOVERING...

THE ANSWER IS YES... YES... A MILLION TIMES **YES!** HURRY... TAKE ME TO THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AT SUPER-SPEED... BEFORE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND!

SURE, MY DEAR!

MEANWHILE, IN THE MINIATURE **KRYPTON** CITY, **SUPERMAN** HAS HOOKED UP A LONG-RANGE **TV** IN **ZAK-KUL'S** LAB... JUST IN TIME TO PICK UP A SHOCKING SCENE!

DO YOU, LOIS LANE, TAKE THIS MAN... ER... **SUPERMAN**... TO BE YOUR HUSBAND?

GREAT SCOTT! LOIS WILL BE MARRIED TO THAT **KRYPTON** CRIMINAL, THINKING HE'S ME!

I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND ANY BITS OF **ILLIUM 399!** I... I CAN'T GET OUT OF THE BOTTLE TO SAVE LOIS! (CHOKE!)

AND AS THE CEREMONY ENDS, LOIS IS UNAWARE THAT HER FONDEST DREAM HAS **NOT** COME TRUE!

I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE!

I'M THE HAPPIEST GIRL ON EARTH! **SUPERMAN** IS MY HUSBAND!

BUT **ZAK-KUL** MEETS AN UNEXPECTED PROBLEM WITH HIS NEW BRIDE!

NOW THAT I'M YOUR WIFE, DARLING, TELL ME WHAT I'VE BEEN DYING TO KNOW ALL THESE YEARS... YOUR **SECRET IDENTITY!**

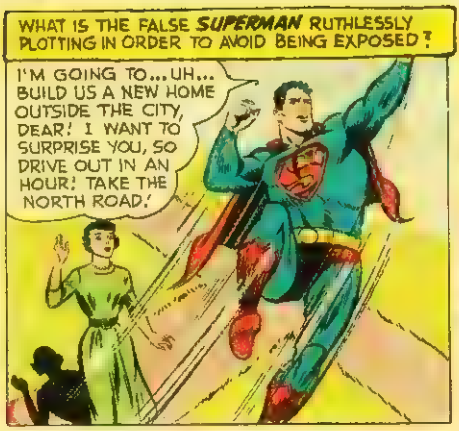
SECRET IDENTITY??? I... I DIDN'T KNOW **SUPERMAN** HAD ONE! I'LL STALL HER...

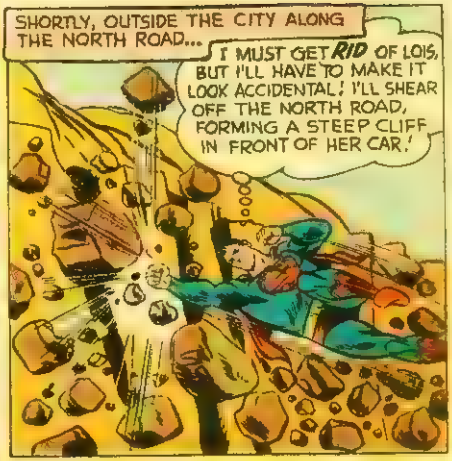
I'LL TELL YOU... ER... LATER, LOIS!

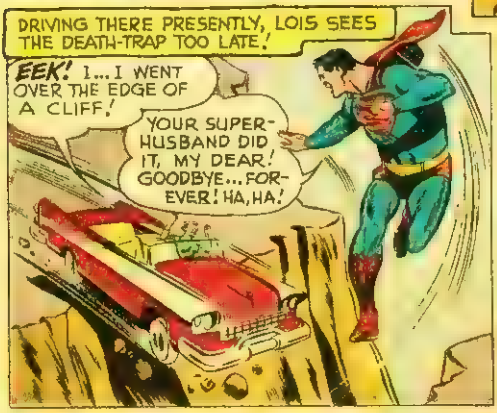
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

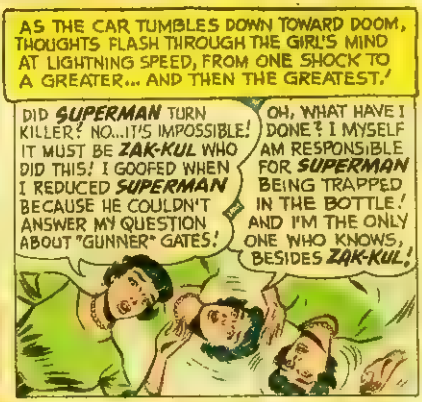
HMMFF! THAT'S SILLY, DEAR! AS YOUR WIFE, I'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH ANYWAY!

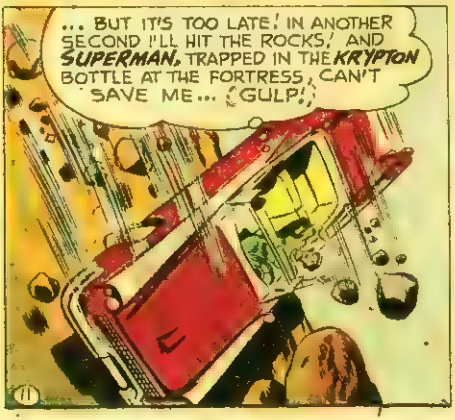
THIS IS BAD! THIS GIRL IS TOO INQUISITIVE... CURIOUS... SNOOPY! SHE'LL BE ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT **SUPERMAN'S** PAST... AND WILL EVENTUALLY EXPOSE ME! IT WAS A MISTAKE TO MARRY HER! HMM... ONLY ONE THING TO DO NOW...

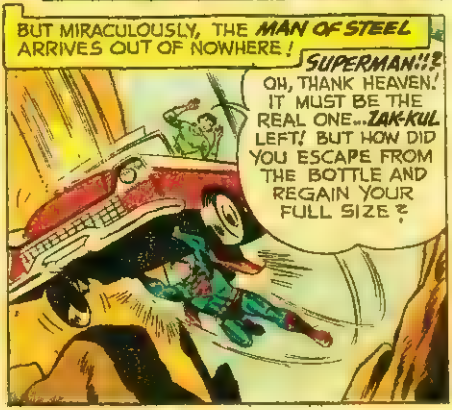

WHAT IS THE FALSE SUPERMAN RUTHLESSLY PLOTTING IN ORDER TO AVOID BEING EXPOSED?
I'M GOING TO... UH... BUILD US A NEW HOME OUTSIDE THE CITY, DEAR! I WANT TO SURPRISE YOU, SO DRIVE OUT IN AN HOUR! TAKE THE NORTH ROAD!

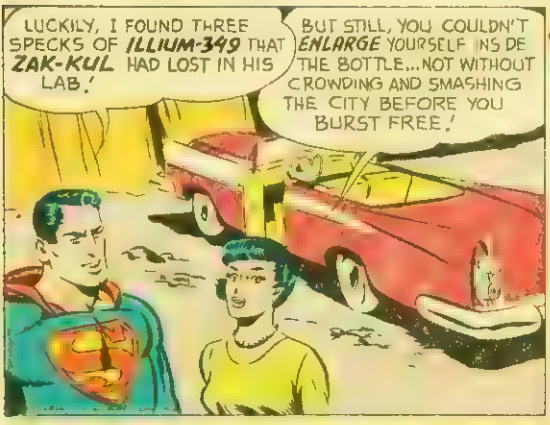

SHORTLY, OUTSIDE THE CITY ALONG THE NORTH ROAD...
I MUST GET RID OF LOIS, BUT I'LL HAVE TO MAKE IT LOOK ACCIDENTAL! I'LL SHEAR OFF THE NORTH ROAD, FORMING A STEEP CLIFF IN FRONT OF HER CAR!

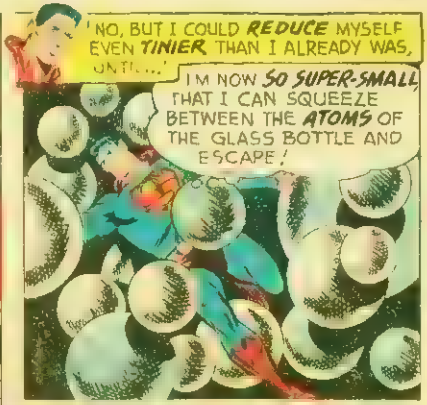

DRIVING THERE PRESENTLY, LOIS SEES THE DEATH-TRAP TOO LATE!
EEK! I... I WENT OVER THE EDGE OF A CLIFF!
YOUR SUPER-HUSBAND DID IT, MY DEAR! GOODBYE... FOR-EVER! HA, HA!

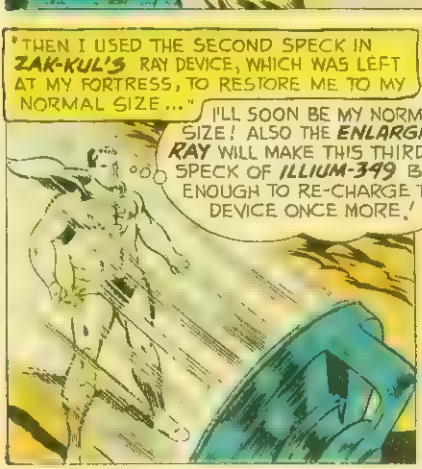

AS THE CAR TUMBLES DOWN TOWARD DOOM, THOUGHTS FLASH THROUGH THE GIRL'S MIND AT LIGHTNING SPEED, FROM ONE SHOCK TO A GREATER... AND THEN THE GREATEST.
DID SUPERMAN TURN KILLER? NO... IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! IT MUST BE ZAK-KUL WHO DID THIS! I GOOFED WHEN I REDUCED SUPERMAN BECAUSE HE COULDN'T ANSWER MY QUESTION ABOUT "GUNNER" GATES!
OH, WHAT HAVE I DONE? I MYSELF AM RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERMAN BEING TRAPPED IN THE BOTTLE! AND I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS, BESIDES ZAK-KUL!

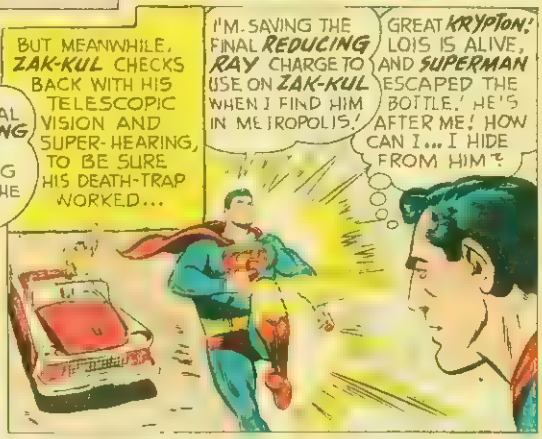

... BUT IT'S TOO LATE! IN ANOTHER SECOND I'LL HIT THE ROCKS! AND SUPERMAN, TRAPPED IN THE KRYPTON BOTTLE AT THE FORTRESS, CAN'T SAVE ME... (GULP!)

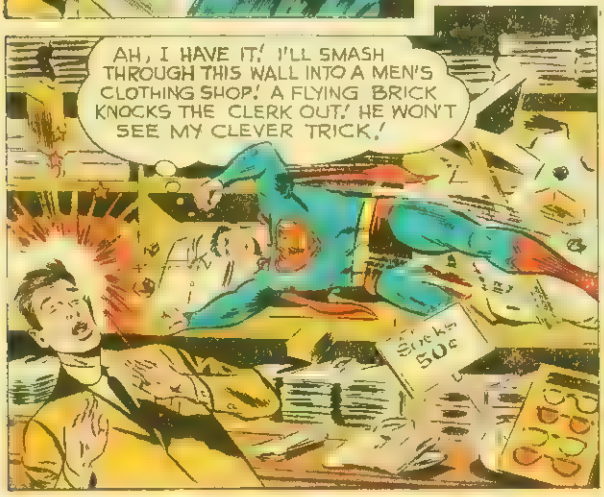

BUT MIRACULOUSLY, THE MAN OF STEEL ARRIVES OUT OF NOWHERE!
SUPERMAN!!?
OH, THANK HEAVEN! IT MUST BE THE REAL ONE... ZAK-KUL LEFT! BUT HOW DID YOU ESCAPE FROM THE BOTTLE AND REGAIN YOUR FULL SIZE?

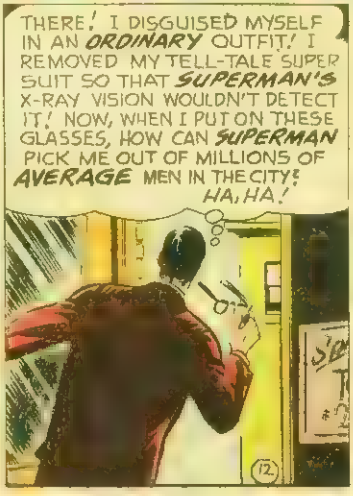

LUCKILY, I FOUND THREE SPECKS OF ILLIUM-349 THAT ZAK-KUL HAD LOST IN HIS LAB!
BUT STILL, YOU COULDN'T ENLARGE YOURSELF INSIDE THE BOTTLE...NOT WITHOUT CROWDING AND SMASHING THE CITY BEFORE YOU BURST FREE!


NO, BUT I COULD REDUCE MYSELF EVEN TINIER THAN I ALREADY WAS, UNTIL...
I'M NOW SO SUPER-SMALL THAT I CAN SQUEEZE BETWEEN THE ATOMS OF THE GLASS BOTTLE AND ESCAPE!


"THEN I USED THE SECOND SPECK IN ZAK-KUL'S RAY DEVICE, WHICH WAS LEFT AT MY FORTRESS, TO RESTORE ME TO MY NORMAL SIZE..."
I'LL SOON BE MY NORMAL SIZE! ALSO THE ENLARGING RAY WILL MAKE THIS THIRD SPECK OF ILLIUM-349 BIG ENOUGH TO RE-CHARGE THE DEVICE ONCE MORE!


BUT MEANWHILE, ZAK-KUL CHECKS BACK WITH HIS TELESCOPIC VISION AND SUPER-HEARING, TO BE SURE HIS DEATH-TRAP WORKED...
I'M SAVING THE FINAL REDUCING RAY CHARGE TO USE ON ZAK-KUL WHEN I FIND HIM IN METROPOLIS!
GREAT KRYPTON! LOIS IS ALIVE, AND SUPERMAN ESCAPED THE BOTTLE! HE'S AFTER ME! HOW CAN I... I HIDE FROM HIM?


AH, I HAVE IT! I'LL SMASH THROUGH THIS WALL INTO A MEN'S CLOTHING SHOP! A FLYING BRICK KNOCKS THE CLERK OUT! HE WON'T SEE MY CLEVER TRICK!
Shirts 50¢


THERE! I DISGUISED MYSELF IN AN ORDINARY OUTFIT! I REMOVED MY TELL-TALE SUPER SUIT SO THAT SUPERMAN'S X-RAY VISION WOULDN'T DETECT IT! NOW, WHEN I PUT ON THESE GLASSES, HOW CAN SUPERMAN PICK ME OUT OF MILLIONS OF AVERAGE MEN IN THE CITY? HA, HA!
12

YET, A MOMENT LATER, **SUPERMAN** UNERRINGLY SEIZES HIS QUARRY! CAN YOU GUESS WHY IT WAS **EASY!**

MR. ZAK-KUL, I PRESUME? I'LL USE THE **REDUCING RAY** ON YOU!

BUT HOW IN THE...

...NAME OF **KRYPTON...**

... COULD YOU PENETRATE MY **UNKNOWN** DISGUISE?

LATER, AT THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE...

IT WAS HARDLY AN "UNKNOWN" DISGUISE! BY AN IRONIC TWIST OF FATE, **ZAK-KUL** USED HORN-RIMMED GLASSES... WHICH MADE HIM THE DOUBLE OF **CLARK KENT!** THAT NOTE WILL EXPLAIN ALL TO THE **KRYPTON** POLICE!

KRYPTON POLICE

13

FINALLY, AS THE **REAL** CLARK KENT RETURNS TO THE **DAILY PLANET...**

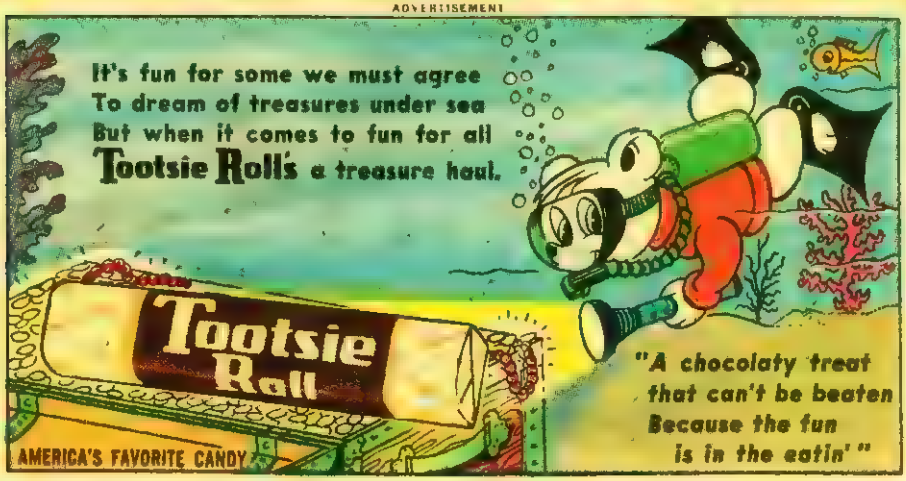
(SIGH!) I WAS MARRIED TO **SUPERMAN** FOR A WHILE...BUT THE **WRONG ONE!** THE COURTS, OF COURSE, ANNULLED THE MARRIAGE! OH, CLARK, WILL THE **RIGHT SUPERMAN** EVER PROPOSE TO ME?

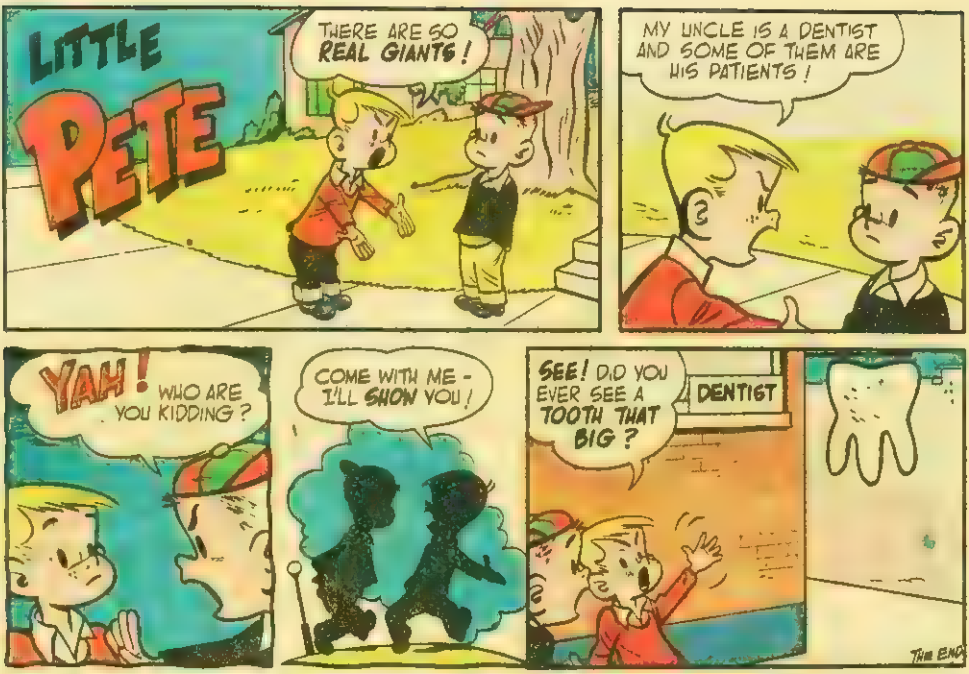
ER... HOW WOULD I KNOW, LOIS?

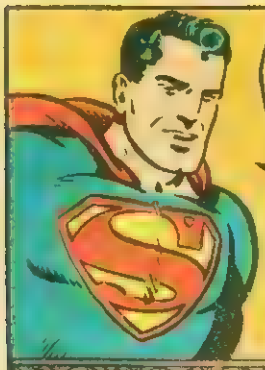
THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

It's fun for some we must agree
To dream of treasures under sea
But when it comes to fun for all
Tootsie Rolls a treasure haul.







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DO YOU KNOW THE LEGEND of SUPERMAN?

He was born on Krypton. Shortly before it exploded his parents sent him to earth in a rocket where he was adopted by Jonathan and Martha Kent who named him Clark Kent.

They soon learned he had super-strength and could fly like a bullet. As he grew older, the amazing lad fought for justice in the role of SUPERBOY.

To hide his identity, Superboy posed as timid Clark Kent. His best friends were Lana Lang and a super-dog from Krypton named Krypto. When he grew up, Clark went to work for the Metropolis Daily Planet where his editor was Perry White. A reporter, Jimmy Olsen, became his best pal, and a reporter, Lois Lane, fell in love with Superman at first sight!

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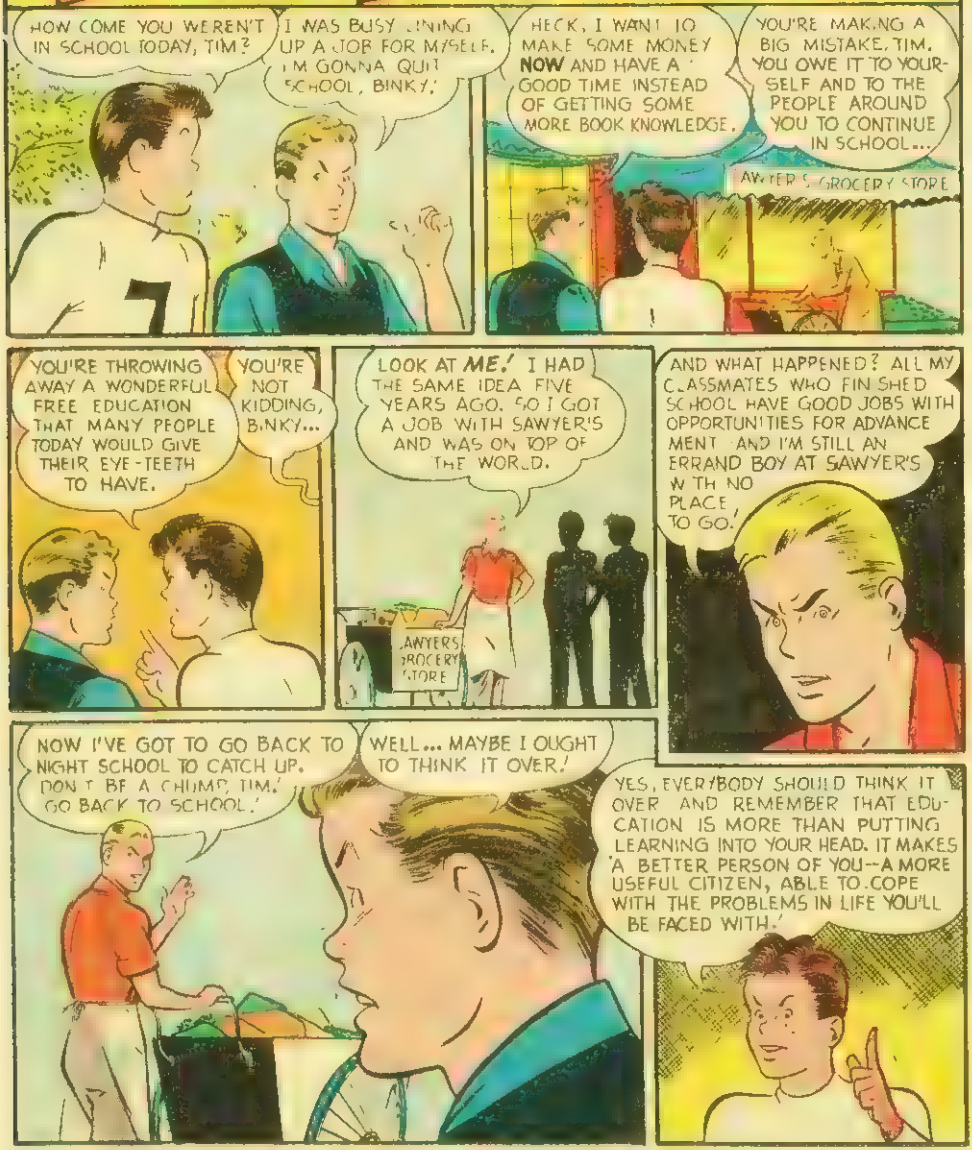
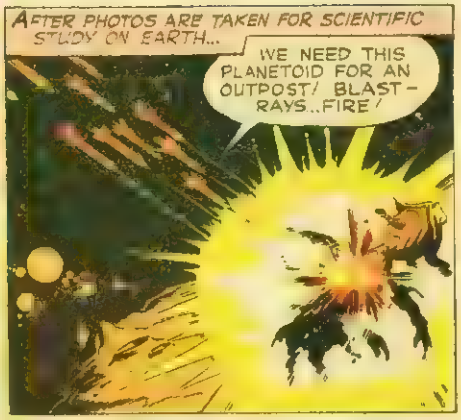
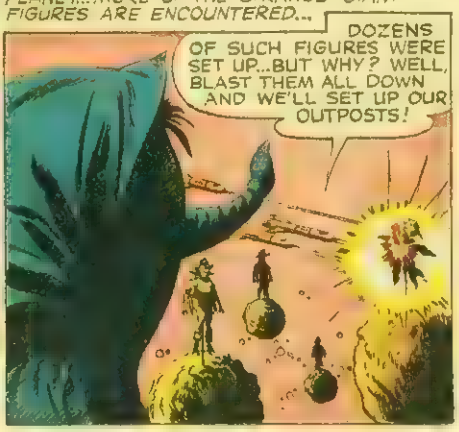


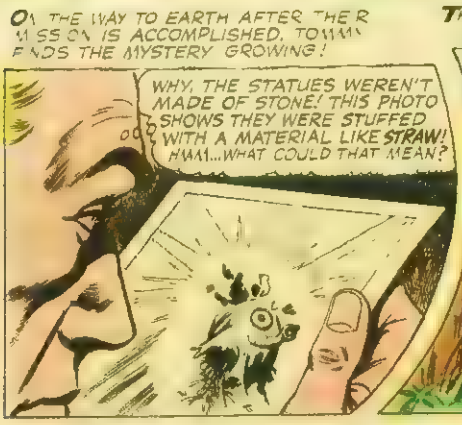
PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

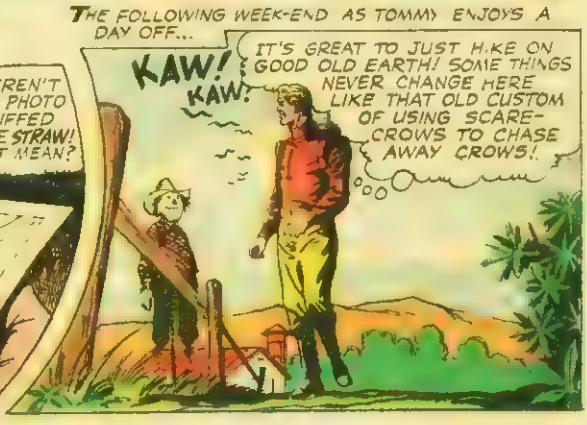
Tommy TOMORROW

AMAZING INDEED IS THE EERIE SIGHT WHICH GREETS THEIR EYES!
GREAT COMETS! IS THAT GIGANTIC STATUE A RELIC LEFT BY SOME LONG DEAD CIVILIZATION? IT LOOKS ODD.. REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING... BUT WHAT?

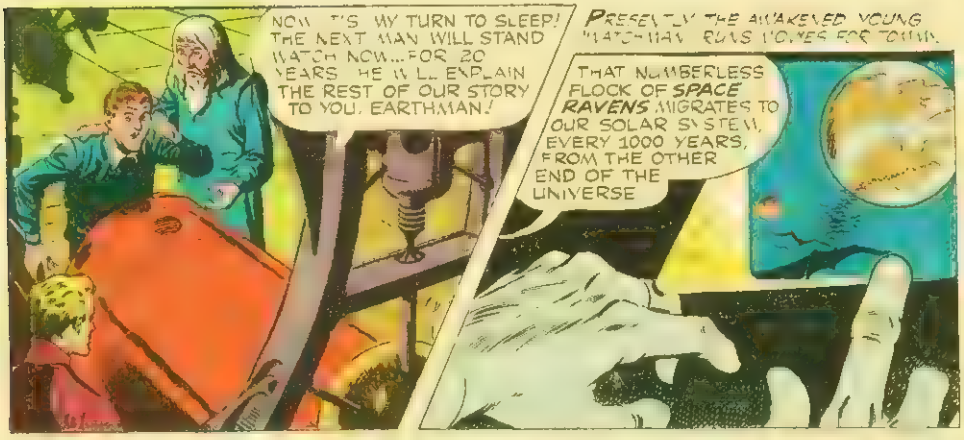

AFTER PHOTOS ARE TAKEN FOR SCIENTIFIC STUDY ON EARTH...
WE NEED THIS PLANETOID FOR AN OUTPOST! BLAST-RAYS..FIRE!

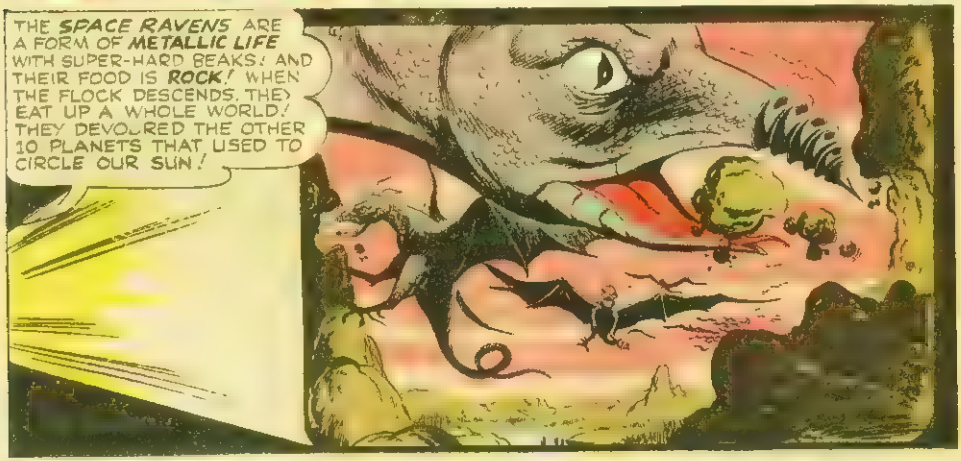

BUT WHEREVER TOMMY LEADS HIS FLEET AMONG THE PLANETOIDS CIRCLING THE DEAD PLANET...MORE OF THE STRANGE GIANT FIGURES ARE ENCOUNTERED...
DOZENS OF SUCH FIGURES WERE SET UP...BUT WHY? WELL, BLAST THEM ALL DOWN AND WE'LL SET UP OUR OUTPOSTS!

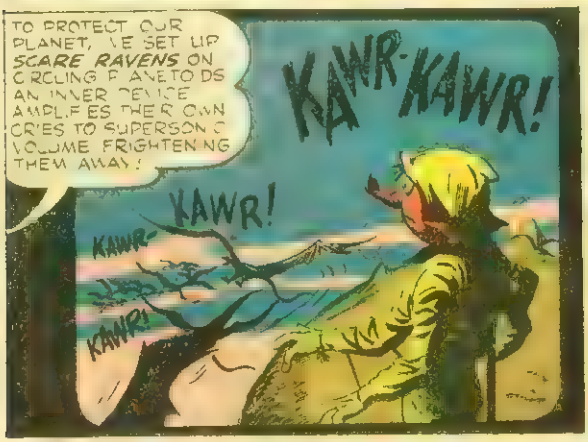

ON THE WAY TO EARTH AFTER THE RECONNAISSANCE IS ACCOMPLISHED, TOMMY FINDS THE MYSTERY GROWING!
WHY, THE STATUES WEREN'T MADE OF STONE! THIS PHOTO SHOWS THEY WERE STUFFED WITH A MATERIAL LIKE STRAW! HMM...WHAT COULD THAT MEAN?


THE FOLLOWING WEEK-END AS TOMMY ENJOYS A DAY OFF...
KAW! KAW!
IT'S GREAT TO JUST HIKE ON GOOD OLD EARTH! SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE HERE LIKE THAT OLD CUSTOM OF USING SCARE-CROWS TO CHASE AWAY CROWS!

WAIT!.. SCARECROWS ARE STUFFED WITH STRAW. SO WERE THOSE GIANT SPACE FIGURES! WERE THEY "SCARE-CROWS", TOO?
INSPIRED BY HIS HUNCH TOMMY RUSHES TO HIS ONE-MAN PLANETEER SHIP AND SPEEDS BACK TO SOLVE THE UNCANNY RIDDLE!
BUT WHO PUT UP THE GIANT SCARE-CROWS? AND WHAT ARE THEY SUPPOSED TO CHASE AWAY? I MUST FND OUT!
SEARCHING THE VICINITY OF THE SINGLE UNINHABITED PLANET TOMMY STUMBLES ON ANOTHER SURPRISE...
AN ENORMOUS SHIP, MILES LONG, CIRCLING THE DEAD PLANET LIKE A "SATELLITE"! I'LL LAND ON IT AND GET INSIDE!
AFTER TOMMY FNDS AN AIR-LOCK DOOR...
EH? AN INTRUDER! I'LL DRAW MY RAY-GUN!
HE'S RADIATING TELEPATHY SPEECH! I CAN ANSWER THE SAME WAY!
EASY, OLD-TIMER! I'M A FRIEND! WHAT IS THIS HUGE SHIP FOR?
MY PEOPLE HAVE ALL BEEN SLEEPING IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION FOR CENTURIES! AN ICE AGE DROVE US AWAY FROM OUR PLANET! WHEN IT IS OVER, THEY WILL AWAKEN AND WE WILL RETURN!

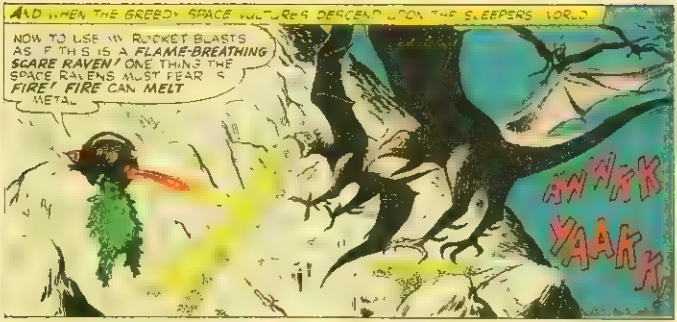

NOW IT'S MY TURN TO SLEEP! THE NEXT MAN WILL STAND WATCH NOW...FOR 20 YEARS. HE WILL EXPLAIN THE REST OF OUR STORY TO YOU, EARTHMAN!
PRESENTLY THE AWAKENED YOUNG WATCHMAN RUNS HOME FOR TOWN.
THAT NUMBERLESS FLOCK OF SPACE RAVENS MIGRATES TO OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, EVERY 1000 YEARS, FROM THE OTHER END OF THE UNIVERSE

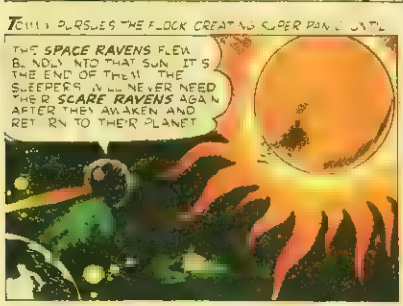

THE SPACE RAVENS ARE A FORM OF METALLIC LIFE WITH SUPER-HARD BEAKS! AND THEIR FOOD IS ROCK! WHEN THE FLOCK DESCENDS, THEY EAT UP A WHOLE WORLD! THEY DEVOURED THE OTHER 10 PLANETS THAT USED TO CIRCLE OUR SUN!


TO PROTECT OUR PLANET, WE SET UP SCARE RAVENS ON CIRCLING PLANETOIDS AN INNER DEVICE AMPLIFIES THEIR OWN CRIES TO SUPERSONIC VOLUME FRIGHTENING THEM AWAY!
KAWR-KAWR!
KAWR!
KAWR-
KAWR!

SO EVEN WHEN THE ICE AGE MADE US LEAVE, WE KNEW OUR PLANET WAS PROTECTED FROM THE SPACE RAVENS! THEY ARE DUE TO COME SOON!
GREAT JUPITER! AND WE...WE DESTROYED YOUR SCARE RAVENS!

WHAT? THEN OUR PLANET WILL BE EATEN UP BY THE SPACE RAVENS! I... I WON'T WAKEN MY PEOPLE! WHAT'S THE USE NOW?
THEY'LL BE PEOPLE-LESS THOUGH-WORLD AND IT'S ALL OUR FAULT! I'LL CHECK IF THE SPACE RAVENS ARE COMING. SOMETIMES MIGRATING BIRDS DON'T RETURN TO THE SAME PLACE
BUT THIS FAINT HOPE DIES WHEN...
THE FLOCK OF SPACE RAVENS IS COMING. MILLIONS OF THEM! THEY'LL GOBBLE UP THE SLEEPERS PLANET. JULP'S RAY BLASTS ARE HARMLESS TO THOSE METALLIC WINGED CREATURES!
HMM! I HAVE AN IDEA! THERE'S A NEARBY SOLAR SYSTEM WHERE ODD PLANETS EXIST WHICH MAY HELP ME AGAINST THE SPACE RAVENS!"
SPACE CHART
AFTER A TOP-SPEED TRIP TO ANOTHER FAMILY OF PLANETS
THIS PLANET HAS SEAS OF STICKY TAR! DIVING IN AND OUT COATS MY WHOLE SHIP AND DRAGS MORE TAR BEHIND.
NOW TO FLY THROUGH THE GIANT FOREST OF ANOTHER WORLD LETTING THE HUGE LEAVES STICK TO THE TAR THAT FORMS A HUGE "BODY"!
FINALLY! SPACE...
I'LL LET THAT GLOWING METEOR GET STUCK IN THE TAR! I'LL FIND ANOTHER ONE TO MAKE TWO "EYES"!





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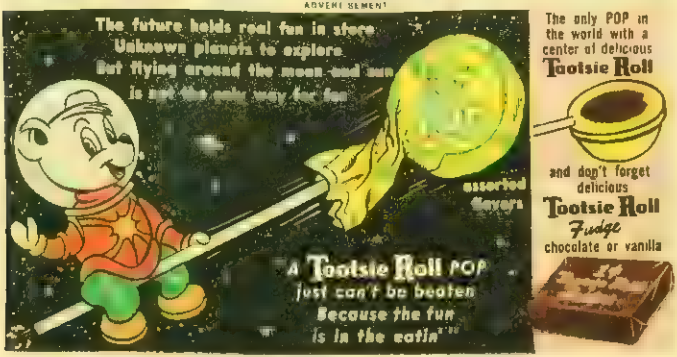

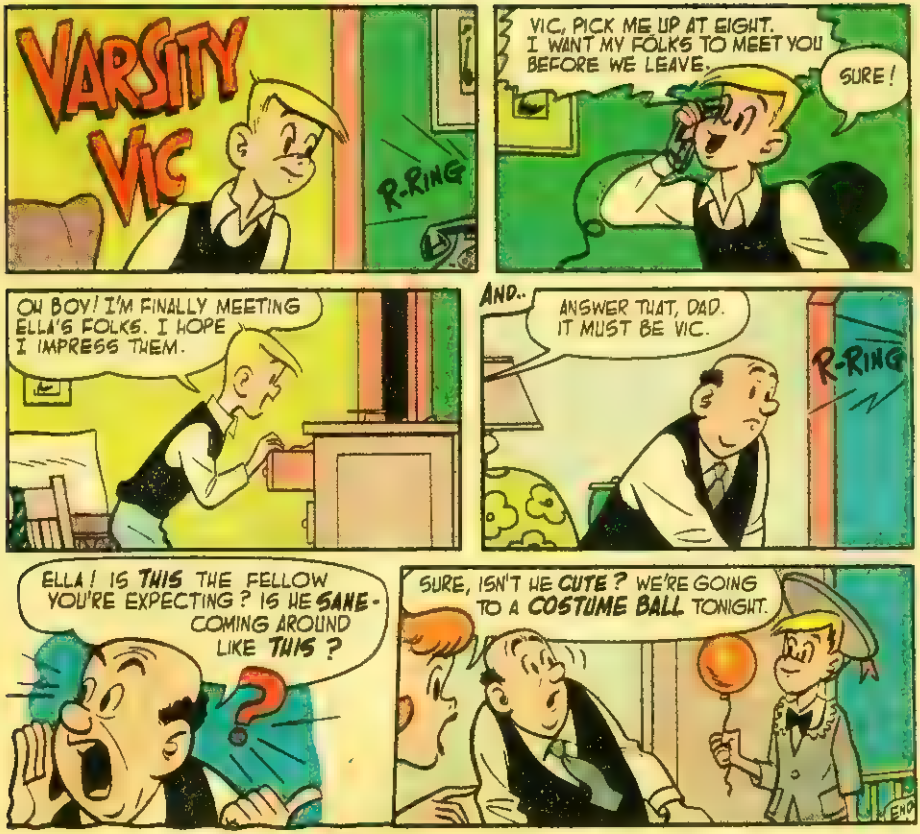

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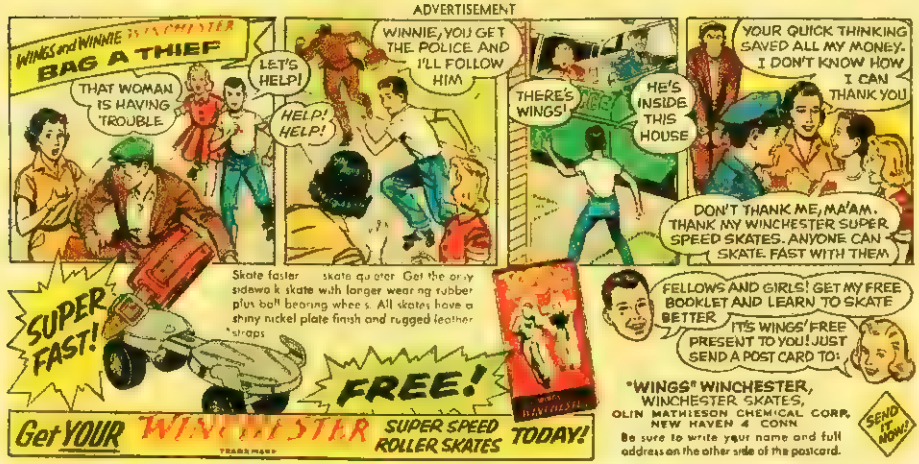


Dear Editor.

I'm a Lieutenant at the army missile base. Recently, when we wanted a good name for a new super missile I suggested calling it the "SUPERMAN" and my Commanding Officer accepted it. Sorry, I can't tell you the details for security reasons, but thanks for a great inspiration, which I got from reading ACTION COMICS.

Lt. Donald J Purdy,
Cape Canaveral, Florida

Dear Editor:

I'm all for the amazing space adventures of TOMMY TOMORROW, the Planeteer of the next century. But why did you give him "Tomorrow" for a last name? It sounds so odd.

Leonard Smith,
RFD, Council Bluffs, Ia.

(Your own last name, by coincidence, will help answer your question, Len! Back in the Middle Ages, tradesmen began the custom of using their trade as a last name. Thus arose family names like "Mason," "Cutter" and "Smith." Your ancestors were probably gold-smiths or copper-smiths, men who work with metals. Similarly, we chose "Tomorrow" for Tommy to symbolize the fact that he has his space adventures in the future. So you see, TOMORROW is no more "odd" a name than . . . well . . . SMITH!—Editor)

Dear Editor:

If SUPERMAN is so afraid of kryptonite all the time, why doesn't he fly around the world to find all of it, then use super-long tongs or a lead-suit to gather it and throw it all away into space? He could get rid of it once and for all that way.

A. L., Jr.,
Pan. Plaza, Canal Zone

(There's only one trouble. More kryptonite would keep coming back from space, in the form of meteors. You see, when the planet Krypton exploded long ago, it burst into millions of pieces of kryptonite that scattered all through space. They will keep falling down on earth far into the future. So it's hopeless for SUPERMAN to try to clean up all the kryptonite on earth, when the supply is endlessly renewed.—Editor).

Dear Editor:

Will Congo Bill be out of a job soon? I've heard and read that civilization is rapidly coming to the jungles of Africa, including big modern cities right in the heart of the Congo itself.

Howard Henshaw,
Gen. Del., Tulsa, Okla.

(It will take a long time yet before Africa is fully civilized, Howard. There are still vast tracts cut off by rivers and mountains where the animals are wild and the natives more so. Remember that it took the pioneers over 100 years to fully tame the Old West in America, and they only started on Africa recently. —Editor).

Dear Editor:

Just why did SUPERMAN build his FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE at the North Pole? Couldn't he have put it in Metropolis, near where he works at the DAILY PLANET as Clark Kent?

John C. Brown,
Montgomery, Ala.

(SUPERMAN'S fortress contains many things that might be dangerous within a city. Strange beasts from other worlds that he collected might escape and menace people. Powerful machines might blow up. Radioactive materials that he experiments with might create a radiation hazard, etc. None of these could harm anyone in the desolate arctics far from any living soul.—Editor).

SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Uranus No. 6)

G MUUJ KJAIGZOUT OY G
VXOBORKMK — YU SGQK
ZNK SUYZ UL OZ GTJ ZGQK
VGXZ OT HAORJOTM G
HKZZKX CUXRJ.

SUPERMAN, OCT.
c/o ACTION COMICS
480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C. 17, N. Y.

Dear Superman:

Please enroll me as a Member of the SUPERMEN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost of mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Button and Superman Code.

NAME.....

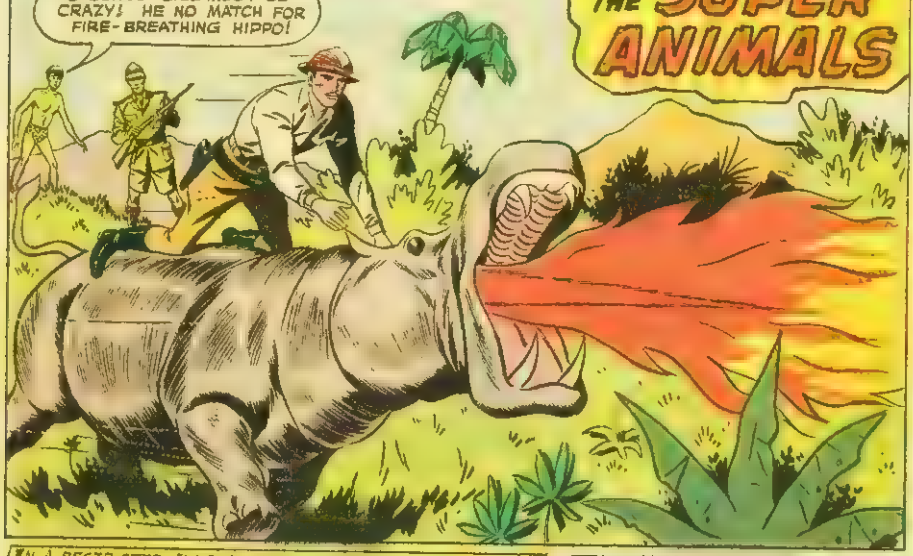
STREET ADDRESS.....

CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....

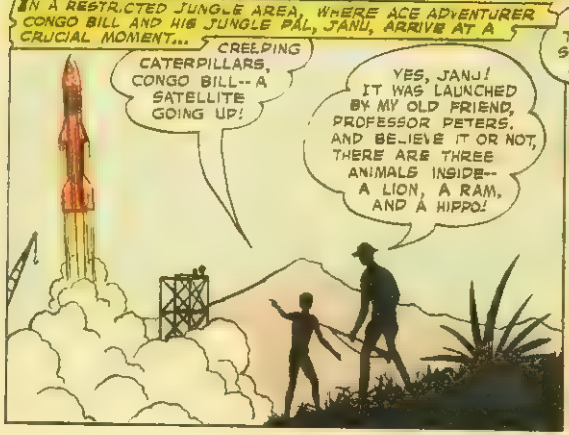
CONGO BILL with JANU The Jungle Boy

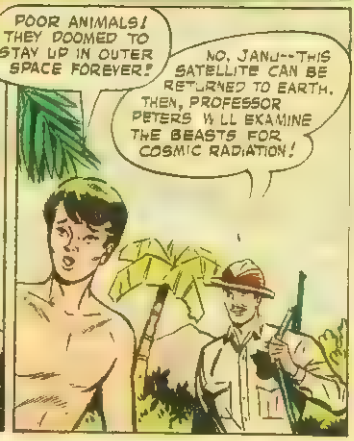
THE SATELLITE ZOOMED UP INTO OUTER SPACE, CARRYING A CARGO OF INNOCENT ANIMALS--A RAM, A LION, AND A HIPPO! BUT WHEN THE SATELLITE CAME DOWN AGAIN, THE BEASTS POSSESSED FORBIDDEN POWERS NEVER BEFORE KNOWN ON EARTH! AND CONGO BILL, JUNGLE ADVENTURER, FACED HIS GREATEST PERIL WHEN HE TRIED TO DISCOVER...

THE SECRET OF THE SUPER ANIMALS



IN A RESTRICTED JUNGLE AREA, WHERE ACE ADVENTURER CONGO BILL AND HIS JUNGLE PAL, JANU, ARRIVE AT A CRUCIAL MOMENT...



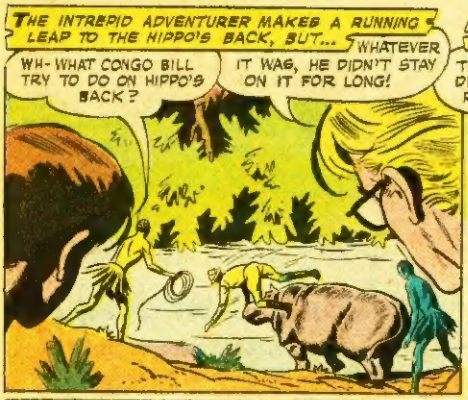


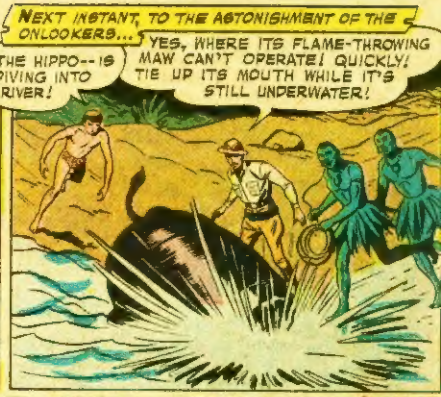
BUT, JUST AS THEY JOIN THE FAMOUS SCIENTIST...
THE SATELLITE'S GONE OUT OF CONTROL--AND WILL SOON CRASH-LAND! THOSE ANIMAL PASSENGERS WILL BE KILLED FOR SURE!
NO, CONGO BILL! I'VE LINED THE INSIDE OF THE SATELLITE WITH LAYERS OF FOAM RUBBER TO CUSHION ANY LANDING SHOCK!
NEXT INSTANT, THE GROUND SHUDDERS UNDER THE IMPACT, AS...
THE SATELLITE BROKE WHEN IT LANDED! WE MUST CAPTURE THE ANIMALS BEFORE THEY GET OUT!
I'LL GIVE YOU A HAND, PROFESSOR!
XR 14
BUT, TO THE ASTONISHMENT OF ALL...
GOOD GRIEF! THAT LITTLE RAM-- IT BUTTED OVER A LARGE TREE!
THEN...
LOOK! LION LEAPING SO HIGH IT LOOK LIKE IT FLYING! WHAT STRENGTH!
Y-YES, IT'S AMAZING! APPARENTLY THE COSMIC RAYS GAVE THOSE ANIMALS STRANGE AND VAST POWERS!
FINALLY, FROM THE INTERIOR OF THE SATELLITE EMERGES...
LEAPING LIONS! I'LL SAY THE ANIMALS NOW HAVE STRANGE POWER! THE HIPPO BREATHING FIRE-- LIKE A DRAGON!
AS THE ANIMALS DISAPPEAR INTO THE BUSH, A JUNGLE POLICEMAN PREPARES TO GO AFTER THEM...
THOSE DANGEROUS BEASTS CANNOT BE PERMITTED TO ROAM THE JUNGLE! I SHALL HAVE THEM DESTROYED!
BUT YOU MUSTN'T, OFFICER KUMARA! THEY MUST BE TAKEN ALIVE SO THAT I CAN EXAMINE THEM FOR SCIENCE! BESIDES, I'M SURE THEIR SUPER-POWERS ARE ONLY TEMPORARY!
2

OFFICER KUMARA-- PROFESSOR PETERS IS RIGHT. I'LL VOLUNTEER TO RECAPTURE THOSE BEASTS BEFORE THEY CAN DO ANY HARM!
WELL... IF YOU SAY SO, CONGO BILL. BUT REMEMBER, THE RESPONSIBILITY IS YOURS!
HMM... MY HELMET GOT RIPPED WHEN I FELL BEFORE.
HERE, YOU CAN USE THIS ADHESIVE TAPE TO REPAIR IT TEMPORARILY!
JUST THEN...
LOOK-- THERE'S THE ESCAPED RAM! IT CAME BACK-- AND IT'S HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE LABORATORY.
THE NEXT MOMENT...
LEAPING LIONS, THE RAM IS BUILDING ONE BUTT OF HORNS-- AND CRUSH THIS DOLL HOUSE!
BETTER LET ME DESTROY IT, CONGO BILL! ONLY A FOOL WOULD DARE TRY TO CAPTURE THAT SUPER-GOAT ALIVE!
CRACK
NO, STAY BACK. I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
CONGO BILL-- COME BACK! YOU NO MATCH FOR THAT BATTERING RAM!
TENSION MOUNTS AS...
WH-WHY, CONGO BILL IS TEASING THE RAM THE WAY A BULLFIGHTER DOES A BULL!
AND THE RAM STARTING TO CHARGE! IT--IT HIT CONGO BILL ANY SECOND!
3

BUT, AT THE VERY LAST INSTANT, THE INTREPID JUNGLE-FIGHTER DEFTLY STEPS ASIDE, AND...
MISSED! AND THE RAM'S CHARGE TAKING HIM RIGHT BACK INTO SATELLITE! HE'LL CRASH THROUGH IT!
NO, JANU! WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
MOMENTS LATER, THE RAM EMERGES, AND...
LOOK--THE FOAM RUBBER CUSHION USED TO PROTECT ANIMALS INSIDE SATELLITE STUCK TO RAM'S HORNS! SO THAT'S WHY CONGO BILL LURED HIM IN THERE!
NEVER MIND THAT! THE RAM IS HEADING FOR THE LAUNCHING PAD! IT'LL CRUSH IT TO BITS!
GATHERING SPEED, THE "BATTERING RAM" RACES ON UNTIL...
OH, I--I CAN'T LOOK!
KROW
BUT, TO THE SURPRISE OF THE SCIENTIST
HA, HA! THANKS TO THAT FOAM RUBBER, THE RAM BOUNCED LIKE A RUBBER BALL! VERY CLEVER, CONGO BILL!
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO CAPTURE IT EASILY NOW, PETERS! MEANWHILE, JANU AND I WILL GET AFTER THOSE OTHER ANIMALS!
PRESENTLY...
THERE THE LION, CONGO BILL!
YES--IT'S ABOUT TO LEAP!
AND, IN THE NEXT INSTANT...
IT--IT FLYING 20 FEET IN AIR! BUT HOW THAT POSSIBLE?
THE COSMIC RAYS PROBABLY GAVE IT SUPER-STRENGTH TO MAKE LEAPS OF SUCH SPEED THAT IT CAN KEEP ITSELF AIRBORNE FOR A LONG TIME! I MUST CAPTURE IT!
4

WITH UNERRING AIM, CONGO BILL HURLS HIS LASSO SKYWARD, UNTIL...
GOT IT!
I--I THINK IT GOT YOU!
NOW WHAT YOU DO? HOW YOU GET DOWN FROM UP THERE?
STAND BACK, JANU-- I'VE GOT SOME MORE LASSOING TO DO!
NEXT INSTANT, THE AIRBORNE ADVENTURER CASTS EARTHWARD THE OTHER END OF THE LOOPED ROPE, AND SOON...
THAT GREAT, CONGO B...! NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS PULL DOWN LION!
BUT, INSTANTLY, THE LION IS MADE SECURE...
BAD NEWS, CONGO BILL! THE FIRE-BREATHING HIPPO IS NEARING THE VILLAGE OF LARUKI!
FLYING FLAMINGOES. IF ANY NATIVES GET HURT, THEN IT OUR FAULT FOR NOT LETTING OFFICER KUMARA KILL BEASTS! WE BETTER HURRY THERE!
SHORTLY, IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE TERRORIZED VILLAGE...
LOOK--ONE SPURT OF ITS FLAME IS ENOUGH TO MELT DOWN THE PROFESSOR'S JEEP!
WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF THE HIPPO ENTERS THE VILLAGE?
JUMPING GIRAFFES! ONE SPURT OF FLAME BURST A ROCK. WHAT WE DO, CONGO BILL?
HMM...THAT RIVER! ONLY ONE THING TO DO!





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5. You may send in as many entries as you like.
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7. Entries will be judged for originality and sincerity. In case of ties, duplicate prizes will be awarded.
8. Decision of the judges is final. All entries become the property of The Sweets Company of America, Inc. and will not be returned.
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